

had functioned at a couple of meeting in between. So that...for that reason, that's the only reason right now I have this feeling of, yes, I think we should approve, we should confirm, but sometimes those gray areas make me a little uneasy when you, especially with an agency like this, so I think we should just tread lightly and not go overboard on putting language in here that might hamstring the agency that we're really trying to help. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Any further discussion on the Chambers amendment? Seeing none, Senator Chambers to close.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I have made it clear and I will again I don't like this bill, but if it's going to pass, then there are things in it I would like to see tightened up as I perceive what is being done with the language in the amendment as it exists. The bill gives too much power and control to the Governor. I want to shorten that leash as much as possible. I hope I have made that clear and, if I haven't, I hope that categorical statement that I just offered will make it clear. I don't want to expand the power and control of any Governor over this commission. I don't want to grant the Governor, this Governor or any future Governor, power over this commission. When you give to a Governor virtually absolute power, we know what absolute power does--it corrupts absolutely. And if a Governor is of a mind to be sexist, he or she can be homophobic because we don't think people who have a gay orientation have any rights to be protected from discrimination in this state, that Governor can be sexist or whatever he or she chooses. The hand that controls the purse strings or that which a person desires to have is the hand that controls absolutely. So to say that these people serve at the pleasure of the Governor, that the chairperson has his or her salary fixed by the Governor, that gives the Governor absolute control. Congress controls the purse strings as a method of checking what happens in the Senate and at the hands of the President. Parliament controls the purse strings to have some say-so about what happens in that form of government. In this instance, and I'm talking about the bill as a whole if the committee amendments are adopted, the Legislature is giving over to the Governor everything. I can understand that a bill coming along so early in the session when maybe all the gears are not turning or people are not "into" what it is we're doing, that